

FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY FAQ

WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY PROGRAM?

The Future of Democracy Program is a program aimed at giving high school students an inside look at American democracy in action. Future of Democracy workers are critical members of the Election Day team and provide support by assisting voters and participating in polling location duties and responsibilities.

WHO CAN APPLY TO JOIN THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY PROGRAM?

In order to be a Future of Democracy worker with the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections you must:

- Be at least 17 years old and a senior in high school
- Have a minimum of a 2.0 GPA
- Be a Cuyahoga County resident
- Be a U.S. Citizen
- Have written permission from both your parent/guardian and Coordinating Teacher

WHAT HOURS ARE REQUIRED TO WORK THE ELECTION?

You must report to your assigned polling location on the Monday before the election at 6:00 PM to set up the location. This lasts approximately 2 hours. You start work at 5:30 a.m. on Election Day and finish when the entire polling location has completed their tasks at approximately 8:30 p.m. You are given a lunch break and two (2) additional breaks during the day. You must complete the entire shift. Half or partial shifts are not available. You will need to bring your own snacks and water to have throughout the day

HOW DO I APPLY TO BE A STUDENT ELECTION OFFICIAL?

You may pick up applications from your Government or Social Studies teacher. Your application will not be valid until it is received by the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections. If you aren't sure which teacher represents your school, contact Arianne Morrow at (216) 443-3256.

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY APPLICATION WAS ACCEPTED AND WHERE I AM WORKING?

You will receive a Notice-to-Serve email or letter from the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections with your polling location assignment listed. We try to assign you as close to your home as possible. If you do not receive an assignment letter by two weeks before the election, please call (216) 443-3256 or email amorrow@cuyahogacounty.us

WHEN AND WHERE WILL I RECEIVE TRAINING?

You will be trained in your high school. You can speak with your schools Future of Democracy Coordinator to learn the date and time of the training. You will also be sent a training reminder to your home and be given a reminder call the day before the training class occurs.

HOW DO I GET TO THE ASSIGNED POLLING LOCATION?

You are required to have or provide your own transportation to and from the polls. Please locate your assigned polling place prior to the Monday Night Organizational meeting so that you will know where you are going to work.

WHAT IF I CANNOT STAY FOR THE ENTIRE TIME ON ELECTION DAY?

You will not be able to participate in the Future of Democracy Program. You must be able to complete training, attend the Monday Night Organizational Meeting and work the entirety of Election Day. You cannot work a partial day at the polls.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME?

You are expected to act professionally for the entire assignment (training, the Monday Night Organizational Meeting and Election Day), professionalism includes but is not limited to:

- Being on time for all Election related tasks, this includes lunch and breaks
- Unplugging for the day – No technology (cell phones, tablets etc.)
- Following THE directions OF the Voting Location Manager and Voting Location Deputy
- Staying calm under pressure, remember your training
- Participating, you are part of a team and your participation is needed and required

WHAT SHOULD I WEAR?

Business casual dress is the required dress code for all Precinct Election Officials

- Men – pants (no jeans), a shirt with a collar
- Women – pants (no jeans or shorts), Skirts (knee length), collared shirts (no tank-tops)

WHY DO YOU NEED MY SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER?

You will be paid \$172.10 for attending training, the Monday Night Organizational Meeting and working the entirety of Election Day. Your social security number will be needed to complete payroll and used for no other purpose.

WHEN WILL I BE PAID?

You will receive your paycheck within 3 to 4 weeks after the election.

WHO DO I CALL IF I HAVE AN ISSUE?

Arianne Morrow
Future of Democracy Coordinator
216-443-3256
amorrow@cuyahogacounty.us